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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 17 | Humidity 75% Partly cloudy sky Sensex 83,535 | Nifty 25,574 | Gold 1,23,820 | Silver 1,57,000 | Dollar 88.70 | Euro 103.13 | GBP 116.65

CITY PAGE 5

Trash throw As waste collection flounders, garbage gets flung into Vengaiah Lake that was just rejuvenated spending crores of rupees

Can't digest this While food adulteration is rampant across states, Karnataka has proved to be most lethargic when it comes to penalising offenders

CITY PAGE 6

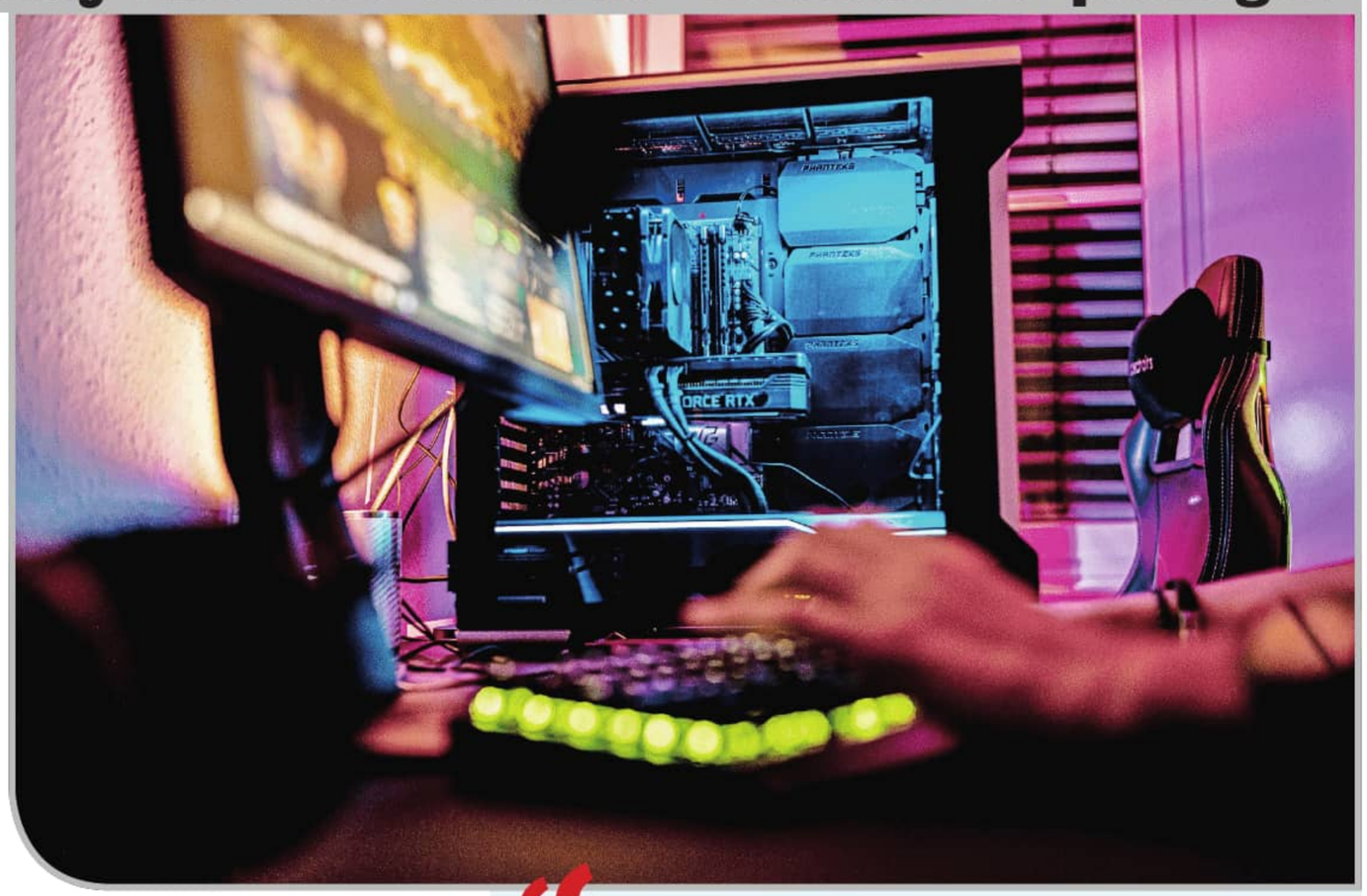
Due to weak moderation and regulation, 'escort' services parade their goods openly on social media — many of these are simply fronts for cheating and extortion gangs that await vulnerable victims to fall in the web

YOU'VE GOT BLACKMAIL

Profiles unabashedly offer rate cards for 'sessions' or 'packages'

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR



Bengaluru's social media space has seen a surge in open escort advertisements and online solicitation, many of which are turning into fronts for cheating and extortion. Several accounts on platforms like Instagram, Telegram, and Facebook openly promote "escort" services, post explicit photos, and share rate cards for video calls or chats. Payments are sought through UPI, making the transactions quick and untraceable.

Despite being visible to anyone online, these accounts continue to operate with little or no action. Once flagged or reported, they simply change their usernames or create new profiles, reappearing within days. Investigations show that such platforms have become a breeding ground for immoral activities and organised online rackets, with multiple accounts across social media openly advertising escort services without any checks.

Open escort ads have normalised transactional contacts on the internet, creating both supply and demand. They have also become easy recruitment channels for honey-trap gangs, acting as meeting points where predators and potential victims connect. The lack of strong moderation on these

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"Social stigma remains the biggest deterrent against victims coming forward. Many fear being judged by family members, friends, or society if their interactions on dating apps or social media become public

— Police official

FEAR OF WATER

As drowning incidents rise, locals demand signages, security measures near lakes, dams

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

After news of two school students aged 10 and eight having drowned while swimming in a lake at Ballur, Anekal, after school hours, residents of the area are livid. They say six children have drowned in this lake over the past three years and ask that a fence be installed around it without delay.

A few months back, another boy drowned at the Kempasagara Lake. Last year, five students drowned together during an outing at Sangama, while three boys died after falling into a well. Two years ago, children drowned while swimming at Mavathur Lake. Even recently, two engineering students drowned in a swimming pool. Despite there being many lakes around Bengaluru, neither politicians nor officials have taken adequate steps to develop or secure these sites. Many lakes and tourist spots have unfortunately become "death traps".

Ramanagara, which draws hundreds of visitors from Bengaluru, has witnessed over 14 deaths of children due to accidents in water in just two years. Large reservoirs such as Kanva, Iggalur,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Jazz it up

John Shannon, the acclaimed jazz guitarist, composer, and co-founder of Con Alma Jazz Club, will be performing live. His music blends deep jazz traditions with spiritual exploration, creating a sound that feels both contemporary and timeless. **Where: Windmills, Whitefield; When: November 14 and 15, 9.30 pm**

02 Sustainability first

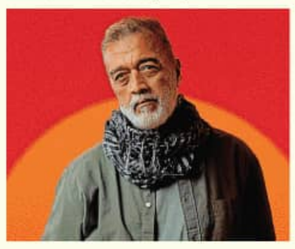
Traya Utsav, a two-day festival celebrating conscious living, brings together over 110 sustainable brands and mindful experiences across fashion, wellness, food, home, and culture. Visitors can discover clean beauty, plant-based foods, handmade crafts, natural fabrics, art, and more, all in one vibrant, soulful space. **Where: Jayamahal Palace Exhibition Centre; When: November 15 and 16**

03 Crafty collab

Craft Forward will be exploring the potential of craft through contemporary collaborations between artisans and designers. It includes workshops, a shadow puppetry play and talks by practitioners who use craft in fields like conservation and animation. The exhibition (open through the month) showcases crafts in new-age mediums such as branding, packaging, and animation. **Where: Courtyard Koota, Kengeri; When: Open since November 7**

04 Soulful music

Re: Sound by Jet ALive featuring Lucky Ali will be taking the audience on a soulful journey, celebrating music that has defined generations. From nostalgic classics to new age soundscape, experience the timeless charm of a musical icon, live on stage. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: Dec 6, 7 pm**



Visits to the vet go digital in Bengaluru

Veterinarians say there is noticeable rise in pet owners choosing virtual consultations over in-person visits, with many preferring convenience and quick response offered, especially for minor issues or advice

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With Bengaluru's pet population growing rapidly and pet parents juggling busy urban lifestyles, veterinary care is increasingly moving online. From routine check-ups and dietary advice to follow-up consultations, more pet owners are turning to virtual platforms to seek timely medical guidance for their furry companions.

Veterinarians across the city say they've seen a steady rise in the number of online consultations in the past couple of years, driven by convenience, quicker access to experts, and the comfort it offers to anxious pets and their owners.

Dr Suranjana Ganguly, senior veterinarian, CUPA, said that common concerns via online consultations include routine check-ups, skin irritations, minor injuries, and occasional behavioral queries. "Emergencies are usually directed for urgent in-clinic care, but some vets also provide remote emergency guidance," said Dr Ganguly. Dr Ganguly noted that accurate diagnosis virtually depends on the veterinarian's experience. "Senior vets use targeted questions and ask for photos or videos to identify issues, while newer vets follow detailed checklists to ensure nothing's missed," said Dr Ganguly.

As Bengaluru's pet owners grow more tech-savvy, they are also becoming increasingly cautious. They now prioritise trustworthy platforms, reliable veterinarians, and clear, personalised advice, placing quality of care above mere convenience.

While online consultations prove effective, they cannot replace hands-on exams, says senior veterinarian, adding that it can still be practical and potentially lifesaving option, especially for pet owners with limited access

Dr Ganguly explained that while online consultations are undoubtedly effective, they cannot substitute the value of physically seeing, touching, and handling a pet, as hands-on examination remains irreplaceable. Nonetheless, she emphasised that with careful observation of videos and targeted questioning, virtual consultations can serve as a practical and potentially lifesaving option—particularly for obtaining second opinions on diagnoses or treatment plans, and for pet owners in remote areas with limited or no access to veterinary care.

"The biggest limitation is that one can't observe or physically examine the animals, so should rely on secondary information. In the right circumstances, particularly for remote communities or expert second opinions, online consultations bridge critical gaps in veterinary care," said Dr Ganguly.

A senior veterinarian highlighted that when choosing online consultations, pet parents should always take a few precautions. "It's important to confirm that the professional you're speaking with is a certified vet with valid credentials and experience. Reading reviews or feedback from other pet owners can also help gauge their reliability," said the veterinarian.

Common health issues addressed through online pet consultations include skin-related problems such as rashes, itching, and allergies; appetite loss and mild digestive disturbances; and minor injuries or behavioural concerns. More experienced veterinarians also manage chronic conditions like diabetes, kidney ailments, and arthritis remotely, in addition to offering guidance for emergencies, post-surgical recovery, and second opinions on ongoing treatments.

How digital consults work

Speaking on how online consultations work, Dr Ganguly said that online veterinary consultations provide digitally signed prescriptions, which are legally valid and widely accepted by pharmacies, making access to medicine more convenient for pet owners. Further, she stated that follow-ups are scheduled just like in-person visits, with set dates for calls or video sessions to review treatment progress and test results. "While physical exams remain important, digital prescriptions and virtual follow-ups ensure continuous, accessible care for pets using modern technology," added Dr Ganguly.

Only 31% inmates Aadhaar-verified in Karnataka jails

The Union Home Ministry had directed all states and Union Territories to link and verify the Aadhaar details of prisoners and their visitors to strengthen prison security and curb misuse of facilities. However, many inmates have refused to cooperate—some claiming they do not have Aadhaar cards, others feigning ignorance to mislead jail officials.

As per the Karnataka Prison and Correctional Services Department, only about 31 per cent of the state's nearly 14,000 inmates across 52 jails—including central, district, sub-jails, and a women's prison—have completed the verification process. Prison authorities have refrained from forcing inmates to share Aadhaar details, opting instead for voluntary disclosure through the e-Prisons portal. The Home Ministry has expressed concern over the slow pace, stressing that Aadhaar linkage is vital for accessing government schemes, medical aid, skill training, legal assistance, and smooth rehabilitation upon release. Karnataka has now been instructed to expedite the process and ensure all prisoners' identities are duly authenticated. **— BMB**

DNA test reports to now be delivered more quickly

Getting a DNA test report in Karnataka no longer requires a year-and-a-half wait. With two new DNA laboratories established at the Regional Forensic Science Laboratory (RFSL) in Hubballi and equipped with skilled personnel, reports are now being issued within one to one-and-a-half months. This development will help investigators file charge sheets faster and enable courts to deliver justice swiftly.

Sources said that DNA testing plays a crucial role in proving criminal charges, identifying victims of air or bus accidents, and establishing paternity or maternity in legal disputes. Previously, forensic labs took nearly 18 months to deliver results, delaying trials and punishments. Now, with strengthened infrastructure, authorities say over 3,600 cases have been resolved recently, including criminal, family, and accidental death cases.

In one notable case from Mandya's Malavalli, a teacher who abducted, assaulted, and murdered an 11-year-old student in 2024 was sentenced to life imprisonment after DNA evidence conclusively linked him to the crime. Similarly, DNA testing helped identify victims in major air and bus tragedies, such as the Ahmedabad plane crash and the Kurnool accident, allowing families to claim the remains of their loved ones. **— BMB**

City students still barefoot as shoe and sock grants stuck for six months

In Bengaluru, half the academic year has gone by, but thousands of children in government and aided schools are still attending classes without the promised shoes and socks. The reason: delayed fund release from the state government, leaving School Development and Monitoring Committees (SDMCs) unable to make purchases. Across Bengaluru Urban District's Zone 4 alone, over 2,400 schools, including 208 aided ones cater to more than 7.2 lakh students, mostly from economically weaker backgrounds. With only 20 to 50 per cent of the allocated grants released so far, schools have been forced to hold off procurement. Many children continue walking to school barefoot or in torn slippers.

While the Education Department insists that funds are being transferred in phases, head teachers say they are waiting for the full amount before buying shoes and socks to avoid uneven distribution. Yelahanka MLA SR Vishwanath slammed the government for its inaction. "Bengaluru, the tech capital of India, cannot ensure even basic dignity for its schoolchildren. This is not progress, it's pure neglect," he said. Officials, however, maintain that the remaining grants will be disbursed soon. **— BMB**

CRIME FILES

Man sets bike on fire after failing to pledge it

A 28-year-old courier worker set his brand-new bike on fire after failing to pledge it to raise money for his parents' medical treatment. The incident occurred around 9.30 pm on Sunday night, under Basaveshwaranagar Police Station limits.

The man, identified as Yeshwanth, a native of Thippur village, Tumakuru district, had purchased the motorcycle but was unable to pledge it as it was still under loan. Police said he had been under severe stress due to his father's worsening health; his father is a heart patient and urgently needed medical funds. After finance agencies and friends refused to help, Yeshwanth reportedly asked his friends to keep the bike and lend him money, but they declined since the vehicle was on EMI. Frustrated and desperate, Yeshwanth halted his motorcycle in the middle of the road, at Pavithra Paradise Junction, doused it with petrol, and set it on fire in a fit of rage. Shocked passers-by immediately informed the police.

Fire department personnel quickly reached the spot and extinguished the blaze, but the motorcycle was already reduced to ashes. The Basaveshwaranagar police have registered a case for creating public nuisance, arrested him, and later released him. **–BMB**

Two arrested for smuggling exotic wildlife from Bangkok

Bengaluru customs officials at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) arrested two passengers on Sunday for allegedly attempting to smuggle exotic wildlife species into the country from Bangkok. The arrests were made after officers from the Air Intelligence Unit flagged the duo during routine surveillance of international arrivals.

According to customs officials, the passengers were intercepted shortly after they landed and were found carrying several protected species. The seized wildlife includes a white-cheeked gibbon, a monkey, and a hornbill species. Preliminary investigation suggests the duo had travelled to Bangkok to procure the animals.

The accused, Manzoor Ali Thenethu Parambil and his wife, Khairunneesa Kozhithodi, were arrested under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, for allegedly importing and possessing protected species illegally. Officials said the duo was working as couriers for an international wildlife smuggling syndicate. A thorough investigation is in progress to determine the source of the animals and identify possible connections to global trafficking networks.

The seized wildlife has been placed under quarantine and will be repatriated to Thailand. **–BMB**

Teenage girl found dead at residence in Kalasipalya

A 14-year-old girl was found hanging at her home in Kalasipalya on Saturday night, with police stating that the incident occurred sometime between 10 pm on November 8 and 9 pm on November 9.

The deceased, identified as Sharmila S, a class 9 student of a private high school, was alone at home after her family left for a temple visit to Tamil Nadu on Friday night. Her mother, Kali Selvi, who filed the complaint, stated that Sharmila chose to stay back to prepare for an exam scheduled at school.

According to police, Sharmila had called her mother around 3.30 pm on Saturday, informing her that her grandmother who was staying back to watch over her had left for work and might return late. When repeated calls to the girl went unanswered, the family grew concerned.

Around 9 pm, the grandmother returned but found the main door locked from inside. After knocking several times without a response, neighbours helped break open the back door. Sharmila was discovered hanging from the iron staircase railing using a saree.

Police officials said Sharmila had been deeply upset following the recent suicide of a close friend, and had reportedly been battling severe depression since the incident. Her parents had travelled to a temple in Tamil Nadu to pray for her recovery, but during their absence, she is believed to have taken the extreme step. Kalasipalya police have registered a case of unnatural death, and no suicide note was found at the spot. The body was shifted to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem and later handed over to the family. The complainant told police they did not suspect foul play and believed the girl might have taken the extreme step due to personal stress. Further investigation is underway. **–BMB**

Bank employee dies by suicide; wife booked for abetment

A 31-year-old private bank employee died by suicide at his residence in Girinagar Police Station limits on Sunday evening, allegedly due to ongoing harassment by his wife. The deceased, identified as Gagan Rao, was a resident of Hosakerehalli and had married Meghana, a final-year BCA student from Chamarajanagar, just 11 months ago.

Police said the couple often argued, with Meghana allegedly accusing Rao of infidelity, leading to repeated conflicts between them. On Sunday around 7.45 am, another dispute erupted, after which Rao reportedly went into his room and hanged himself from the ceiling fan using a saree.

When he did not come out for over 10 minutes, Meghana grew suspicious and repeatedly knocked on the door. With the help of neighbours, she forced the door open and found Rao hanging. He reportedly still had a pulse, and the neighbours rushed him to a nearby hospital. He was later shifted to Victoria Hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead.

No suicide note was found at the scene. Based on a complaint filed by Rao's family, the police have registered a case of abetment to suicide against Meghana. The exact trigger for Rao's extreme step is still under investigation.

Police revealed that Meghana had earlier filed a complaint against her husband at the Chamarajanagar Women's Police Station, accusing him of having a relationship with other women. The couple had undergone counselling sessions and were advised to mend their relationship. Despite her recent return to Rao's home, frequent quarrels reportedly continued, with police stating that Rao remained in contact with other women against Meghana's objections. **–BMB**

(If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts, reach out to Tele-Manas helpline: 14416 or 1800-891-4416, SAHAI Helpline: 080-25497777)

Hearing-impaired lawyer lauded for breaking barriers

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Karnataka High Court has commended advocate Sarah Sunny, a hearing-impaired lawyer, for her remarkable courtroom presentation with the assistance of a sign language interpreter.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, who presided over the matter, expressed deep appreciation for the advocate's commitment, observing that her appearance "transcended the boundaries of silence."

The judge further remarked, "Her endeavour shall remain an enduring inspiration, a luminous reminder that justice in its truest form not only listens through the ear, but through the heart."

The court described Sunny as a distinguished member of the bar who, despite being hearing impaired, has demonstrated that true advocacy transcends barriers of sound. The judge also highlighted how Australia and the United Kingdom have taken progressive measures to include hearing-impaired individuals in their judicial systems. These initiatives, the court said, "mark a testament to humanity's collective march towards equality."

Praising Sunny's courtroom demeanour, the bench noted, "Miss Sarah Sunny defied every decibel of doubt, delivered her arguments with composure and eloquence, which resonated with the same conviction of any seasoned advocate."

Advocate Sunny had represented a woman seeking to quash a Section 41A CrPC notice issued against her husband, along with a direction for his arrest and the initiation of departmental proceedings against certain officers. She had also sought guidelines on procedures to be followed when an individual against whom a Look Out Circular (LOC) has been issued arrives in India.

The case involved Sunny's client's husband, who had been detained upon arrival from Scotland due to an active LOC. During the pendency of proceedings before the High Court, he sought and obtained a recall of the LOC from a Magistrate Court — a move the High Court later found to be without jurisdiction.

"It is hereby declared and clarified with unmistakable emphasis that the learned magistrates before whom criminal proceedings are pending shall not entertain, under any guise or pretext, applications assailing or seeking the recall, suspension or modification of a LOC," the bench ruled.

The High Court directed that a copy of the order be circulated to all criminal courts across Karnataka to ensure compliance.

Vendors push pedestrians off footpath

Encroached footpaths on Doddaballapur Road endanger pedestrians amid rising Yelahanka traffic chaos

Civic activists demand strict enforcement for pedestrians

Pedestrians on Doddaballapur Road in Yelahanka are struggling to walk safely as street vendors outside Royal Mart stores have encroached upon the footpath and even part of the road, leaving almost no space for commuters. Residents say the situation has become unsafe, particularly during peak hours. "The footpath is completely blocked, and people are forced to walk on the road amid heavy traffic," said a local resident.

The encroachments not only obstruct pedestrian movement but also cause traffic congestion and raise the risk of accidents. Locals have urged authorities to clear the vendors and restore safe walking space. Civic activists stress that strict enforcement is needed to protect pedestrian rights. "Footpaths are for walkers, not for shops. Immediate action is needed before someone gets hurt," said a commuter. **— BMB**

Cubbon Park's green charm drowns in piles of litter

Walkers highlight growing litter crisis inside Cubbon Park, blaming poor enforcement, missing bins, and careless visitors for declining cleanliness

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

On Saturday morning, over 40 participants took to the streets for Project Walkaluru's second Footpath Walk. The event, held in partnership with the Greater Bengaluru Authority's (GBA) South City Corporation, brought together residents, civic officials, and city enthusiasts for a 5 km walk to test and celebrate the neighbourhood's footpaths.

The group walked for nearly two hours across Koramangala 3rd Block, covering Sarjapur Road, 8th Main, 80 Feet Road, 7th Cross, and 16th Main. Along the route, participants paused to document obstacles — defined as anything forcing pedestrians off the footpath and onto the road.

Surprisingly, the walkers reported a clean and walkable experience. There were no garbage spots, no broken or missing slabs, and no two-wheelers blocking paths. The few issues observed included three cars parked on the footpath, three instances of construction material spilling onto walkways, and minor irritants like cow dung, hanging wires, and stones placed to deter bikers.

In total, only 8–10 obstacles were noted over 5 km — a statistic participants felt was a testament to what civic coordination can achieve. Arun Pai, Coordinator of Project Walkaluru, said the success of the event reflects the power of citizen-government collaboration. "When citizens and the government work together with sincerity, the results are amazing. It also creates pride in the neighbourhood, which is a critical ingredient for a better city. Several citizens and Palike staff worked to make this result possible," he said.

Walkers question Horticulture Department and park security's effectiveness

While food and beverage vendors are officially not allowed inside, walkers said that ice-cream and tea-sellers continue to operate freely, especially on weekends

The initiative began on November 1 with the Rajyotsava Footpath Walk — an 11 km route through Shivajinagar under the Central City Corporation. With Koramangala's 5 km walk completed, Project Walkaluru has now covered 16 km of Bengaluru's footpaths.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Pedestrian peril

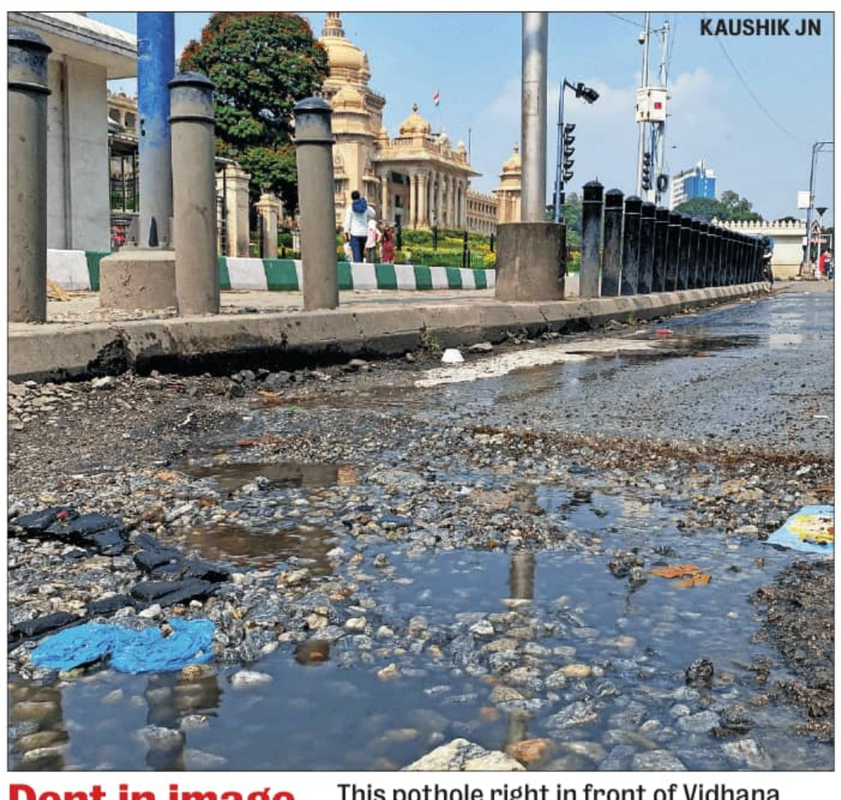
Sindhi Colony

Two-wheelers are regularly parked along the footpath from Ulsoor Lake signal to Sindhi Colony, endangering pedestrians and obstructing safe movement; residents urge swift traffic police action.

Illegal parking

Frazer Town

The footpath on Buddha Vihar Road in Frazer Town remains permanently blocked by parked two-wheelers, forcing pedestrians onto the road; residents urge immediate action.



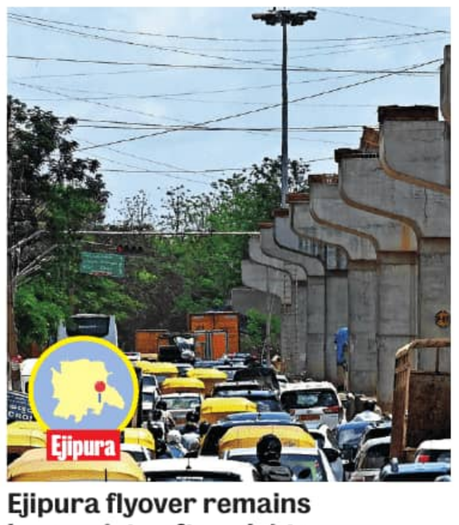
KAUSHIK JN

Dent in image This pothole right in front of Vidhana Soudha gives a pretty fair picture of state of roads in city

Flyover delay sparks social media storm

American entrepreneur Tony Klore spotlights Bengaluru's never-ending Ejipura flyover delay with humour and civic concern

Tony Klore, an American entrepreneur based in Bengaluru—who previously went viral for dressing up as a civic worker to highlight the city's garbage and infrastructure problems—has now turned his focus to the long-delayed Ejipura flyover. In his latest social media video, Klore interacted with residents, commuters, and shopkeepers near the site, capturing their frustrations through witty remarks. Some joked their children might graduate before the flyover is complete, while others said it could be ready only when humans walk on Mars—or by 2080.



Ejipura flyover remains incomplete after eight years

The 2.5-km Ejipura flyover, launched in May 2017 and scheduled for completion by November 2019, remains incomplete even after eight years. GBA Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao recently stated that land acquisition issues continue to stall progress. **— BMB**

Safety concern

Kengeri

The footpath on Doddabele Road, Kengeri, has been encroached by scrap vendors for over a year, forcing pedestrians onto the narrow road amid speeding vehicles.

'Create SOP to protect, rehabilitate child sexual abuse victims'

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Karnataka High Court has directed the State government to formulate a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the protection and rehabilitation of minor victims of sexual offences, which will be binding on all agencies and authorities concerned.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj observed that despite previous court orders, compliance had been lacking. "Directions issued on several occasions continue to be ignored. All these issues could be resolved if a proper SOP is formulated by the Principal Secretary, Women and Child Welfare, and the Director General of Police for all stakeholders. Until then, I propose the following indicative SOP, which will be in force until a formal SOP is adopted," the judge stated.

The court emphasised that in any conflict with existing laws or schemes, the interpretation offering the greatest protection to the child must prevail, per Section 42A of the POCSO Act, 2012.

Objective of the SOP

The SOP aims to create a single, unified, time-bound, and technology-driven framework for handling sexual offence cases against minors—from reporting to full rehabilitation. It seeks to eliminate procedural ambiguity, reduce delays, and ensure inter-agency coordination.

Key directions issued by the court

- **Automatic protection under JJ Act:** Every minor victim will be treated as a Child in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) under Section 2(14) of the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015, invoking CWC jurisdiction automatically.
- **Digital POCSO portal (DPP):** A secure cloud-based platform will manage case details, inter-agency communication, data sharing, and compliance monitoring.
- **Pseudonym identifier (PID):** Each victim will get a unique alphanumeric code to ensure anonymity in all documents, communications, and judgements.
- **Support person:** The CWC will appoint a trained individual to assist the child emotionally and practically during investigation and trial, per Rule 4(7) of POCSO Rules, 2020.
- **Dedicated hospital units:** Government and private hospitals will maintain 24/7 units with trained female medical officers, nurses, and counsellors for medico-legal and psychological care.
- **Psychological support plan (PSP):** Within seven days of reporting, a psychologist or psychiatric social worker must assess trauma and prepare a tailored plan, continuing for at least two years or until recovery is certified.
- **Confidentiality:** Therapy communications remain confidential and inadmissible in court.
- **Education and welfare:** DCPO must ensure enrollment in welfare schemes and uninterrupted education unless medically necessary.
- **School safety:** Transfer to another institution should be discreet if assault occurred at school.
- **Long-term monitoring:** CWC will track rehabilitation through bi-monthly reports on DPP until adulthood.
- **Rehabilitation closure:** Cases formally close only when the child turns 18, with CWC certification of successful reintegration.
- **Pregnancy cases:** If the victim continues pregnancy, an Integrated Mother-and-Child Care Plan (IMCCP) will provide two years of postnatal support.
- **Data-driven monitoring:** DPP will feature a performance dashboard for real-time assessment of SOP effectiveness.

Bin there, done that: Lake has turned garbage dumping spot

As litterbugs take over Vegaiah Lake and authorities fail to act, senior citizen takes it upon himself to remove rubbish from lake premises on daily basis

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Despite the Bengaluru East City Corporation spending crores of rupees on the rejuvenation of Vengaiah Lake near KR Puram, some irresponsible citizens continue to pollute the waterbody by flinging plastic and rubbish into it without any regret or remorse. It has become routine for a senior citizen to remove plastic and rubbish from the walking path around the lake on a daily basis. It is heartening to see a few lake activists watering the saplings they planted along the pathway while a senior citizen clears litter.

"Throwing rubbish into the lake has become a habit for a few irresponsible citizens. On their way to work, they bring garbage on their vehicles and fling it into the lake. I want to appreciate and thank Rajesh Mahajan for volunteering to remove litter. I urge the authorities concerned to take measures to prevent people from dumping waste into the lake. I suggest the authorities arrange door-to-door waste collection twice a day for the benefit of residents, especially those working in IT companies," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist.

Speaking to Bangalore Mirror, Rajesh Mahajan said he had moved to the Monarch Aqua Apartment Complex three weeks ago from Indiranagar. "I used to visit Halasuru Lake for a morning walk when I lived in Indiranagar. I did not find volunteers maintaining saplings there. I am very happy to see a group of dedicated volunteers here. It is quite disturbing to see plastic and litter along the walking path. I decided to remove the waste daily. I believe the Bengaluru East City Corporation marshals are not keeping a proper vigil on those dumping rubbish into the lake. The solid waste management department must ensure that garbage is cleared regularly," said Rajesh Mahajan.Demanding that the authorities penalise people who dump rubbish into the lake, a resident, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that most employees who leave for the office after 10 am throw garbage into the lake. "These employees might wake up late every day and hence fail to hand over waste to sanitation workers," he said.

Health Inspector Jagadeesh M said he would take measures to ensure door-to-door garbage collection on a regular basis. "Sanitation workers along with auto-tippers are visiting all households to collect waste. I will instruct the marshals to keep watch on those throwing garbage into the lake," he said.

Rajesh Mahajan (inset), a senior citizen, clearing plastic and garbage thrown into Vengaiah Lake

Even with costly rejuvenation works complete, the lake's pathways are littered daily. While a few volunteers nurture saplings and clear waste, others persist in using the revived spot as a dumping zone

Metro parking nightmare at night

Metro commuters in Bengaluru are concerned about parking contractors charging double fees if vehicles are collected even a minute after midnight. Passengers arriving on the last trains—often delayed past midnight—say they are being unfairly penalised despite not being at fault. At stations such as Yelachenahalli and Nagasandra, parking lots are shut or locked minutes after midnight, forcing commuters to pay extra. Although BMRCL has instructed contractors to keep parking areas open until the final train arrives and to avoid overcharging, violations continue. With only 66 of 83 stations offering parking, and poor maintenance at several sites, passengers are demanding that parking hours be extended by at least five minutes after the last metro arrives. **–BMB**

Mechanic nabbed in copper heist frenzy

The Konanakunte police have arrested a 25-year-old mechanic for allegedly stealing copper wires from telecom towers and two-wheelers across the city.

The accused, identified as Arbaaz Pasha, a resident of Pillaganahalli, was nabbed near Koli Farm Gate Bus Stand by the Konanakunte police on November 7. Police said he was involved in multiple thefts. Investigations began after Indus Towers Limited lodged a complaint stating that around 20–25 kg of copper cable, worth ₹20,000, had been stolen from a tower near Madhu Industries, Pillaganahalli, on November 6. Based on CCTV footage and local inquiries, police tracked down Arbaaz and recovered 10 kg of copper wire and seven stolen two-wheelers, together valued at around ₹3.1 lakh.

Police said Arbaaz worked as a mechanic and had two prior theft cases registered against him — at Subramanyapura and Puttenahalli police stations. He was produced before the court on November 8, and has been remanded in judicial custody. **–BMB**

Man killed in fall from flyover

In a tragic incident, a 29-year-old labourer, identified as Prasidjit Das, who hailed from West Bengal, died after jumping from the Nayandahalli flyover on Monday. The incident occurred under the jurisdiction of Byatarayanapura police station. Prasidjit, a daily-wage labourer, jumped from a flyover while travelling with his friend Mithun from Nayandahalli to Whitefield. He sustained fatal injuries and was declared dead at the scene. Preliminary investigations suggest suicide. The body was taken to Victoria Hospital for post-mortem and will be handed to his family on Tuesday. Investigation continues. **–BMB**

State flags food safety violations but fails to enforce penalties

Despite detecting over 300 adulterated food samples in 2020–21, Karnataka imposed zero penalties, exposing glaring lapses in its food safety enforcement and raising serious concerns over accountability

| Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Even as Karnataka recorded hundreds of food adulteration violations, no punitive action followed, exposing weak enforcement of food safety laws.

While states like Kerala and Madhya Pradesh acted swiftly on food adulteration cases, Karnataka's zero-penalty record despite numerous violations signals bureaucratic inertia, weak enforcement, and a fading deterrent against unsafe food

The nationwide analysis of food safety samples for 2020–21 reveals a disturbing picture of adulteration across several states but also points to wide disparities in enforcing penalties.

Karnataka analysed 5,217 samples in 2020–21, of which 319 were found non-conforming. Yet, not a single case resulted in a penalty. This stands in sharp contrast to states such as Kerala, which recorded 1,020 violations and imposed 389 penalties, and Madhya Pradesh, where 1,887 penalties were issued against 2,162 violations. Even smaller states like Chhattisgarh reported 165 violations and 149 penalties, showing stronger follow-up action than Karnataka. The absence of penalties suggests either procedural delays, weak enforcement, or gaps in judicial follow-through. According to Rajya Sabha data, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Madhya Pradesh emerged as hotspots with thousands of non-conforming food samples. Karnataka's figures, however, raise concern for a different reason — despite hundreds of violations, no penal action was taken or enforced through the system.

A clear regional divide is evident. Southern states like Tamil Nadu and Kerala tested far more samples than Karnataka and demonstrated stricter enforcement. Tamil Nadu analysed 10,766 samples, of which 3,443 were non-conforming, leading to 1,363 penalties. Kerala, too, maintained strong accountability, penalising nearly 40% of violators. Karnataka, however, remained an outlier in the South — detecting violations but failing to act on them, indicating a deep institutional inertia.

The data paints a troubling yet revealing picture of India's food safety framework. While adulteration is rampant, the real challenge lies in enforcement and follow-up action. States such as Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, and Madhya Pradesh have shown that penalties can act as deterrents when applied consistently. Karnataka and Rajasthan, on the other hand, expose systemic weaknesses in regulatory follow-up. Without penalties, experts warn, the deterrent value of testing collapses, leaving consumers exposed to unsafe food and undermining public trust in the state's enforcement machinery.

MLAs flout rules, Lokayukta under fire

The Karnataka Lokayukta said that 30 percent of MLAs and 37 percent of MLCs, including some ministers, failed to submit mandatory annual statements of assets and liabilities for the year 2024–25, as required under Section 22 of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act. However, the demand for the Lokayukta itself to follow similar transparency norms has been gaining momentum over the last few years. Activists and lawmakers are urging the Lokayukta to emulate Supreme Court judges who publicly declare their assets.

Emphasising the need for the Karnataka Lokayukta and Upa Lokayukta to declare their assets and liabilities in the public interest, MLC Ramesh Babu has written to Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil, seeking an

amendment to the Karnataka Lokayukta Act. "The Lokayukta has not submitted its annual reports from 2017–18 to 2021–22 to the Legislative Council. This came to light during the 153rd session. All government departments have submitted their reports, and I urge you to ensure the Lokayukta does so on time," his letter stated.

Ramesh Babu noted that he had first written to the state government on July 12, 2021, proposing amendments to make asset declarations by the Lokayukta and Upa Lokayukta mandatory. "The Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR) Secretary had written to the Registrar of the Lokayukta on October 27, 2021, seeking his opinion, but there has been no response even after four years," he said. Social activists have welcomed Babu's renewed appeal, calling it a step towards greater accountability. "Citizens have the right to know how transparent the Lokayukta and Upa Lokayukta are," said environmentalist Alexander James. HM Venkatesh of Naija Horatagarara Vedike added that the Lokayukta must lead by example, declaring its assets to inspire public confidence and ensure institutional integrity. **— Y Maheswara Reddy**

BM Trippin' Tales

Mandya transforms into Karnataka's newest heritage and nature hub

| Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @sridharvMirror

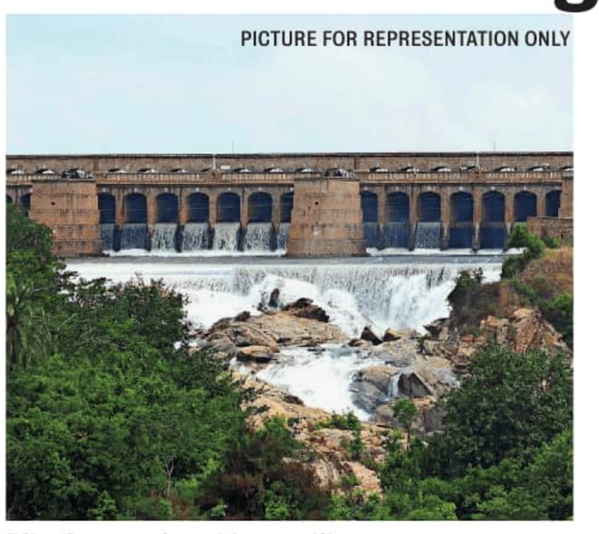
Barely a two-hour drive from Bengaluru, Mandya — once celebrated solely as the Sugar Bowl of Karnataka — is fast turning into a vibrant tourist hotspot. With the state government officially recognizing 72 new destinations, the district's tourism tally has now crossed 106 locations, making it one of the richest regions in Karnataka for heritage, culture, and eco-tourism.

Spread across six taluks — Mandya, Maddur, Malavalli, Pandavapura, Nagamangala, and K.R. Pet — the newly identified destinations offer a diverse blend of spirituality, architecture, and natural beauty. From Hoysala-era temples to scenic water bodies and lush hills, Mandya showcases the depth of Karnataka's cultural and ecological wealth, drawing visitors from across the state and beyond.

In KR Pet, the Lakshminarasimha Swamy Temple at Akkihebbalu, the Panchalingeshwara Temple at Govinahalli, and the Kikkeri Brahmeshwara Temple reflect the grandeur of Hoysala craftsmanship. Nagamangala is home to the Saumyakeshava Temple, famed for its intricate sculptures and geometric precision, and the Mullukattu Temple, a favourite among pilgrims and architecture enthusiasts alike. Malavalli taluk offers both spiritual calm and scenic charm, with the Basavanahalli Basaveshwara Temple and the picturesque Marehalli Lakshminarasimha Swamy Temple surrounded by greenery and ancient ruins.

Pandavapura, steeped in mythology, boasts the Venugopalaswamy Temple at Kannambadi — a marvel relocated stone by stone from the KRS backwaters — along with the serene trekking spots of Bebibetta and Gavibetta. Maddur, positioned along the Bengaluru–Mysuru Expressway, is dotted with heritage shrines such as the Ugranarasimha Swamy and Challeshwara temples, ideal for short spiritual getaways. Meanwhile, Srirangapatna, the historic island town, continues to be the district's most iconic draw with landmarks like the Ranganathaswamy Temple, Tipu Sultan's Fort, the Gumbaz, Paschimavahini, and Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary attracting visitors year-round.

For Bengalureans, Mandya offers more than just a weekend escape. The Bengaluru–Mysuru Expressway has made day trips seamless, allowing tourists to explore multiple heritage circuits within hours. A typical itinerary could begin with a spiritual visit to Melukote — famous for its Yoga Narasimha Temple and puliyogare prasada — followed by birdwatching at Ranganathittu, where pelicans, storks, and kingfishers thrive along the Cauvery River. History enthusiasts can explore the Srirangapatna Fort, Tipu Sultan's summer palace (Dariya Daulat Bagh), and colonial cemeteries, while nature lovers can unwind at Balamuri and Edamuri Falls, popular picnic spots along the river. Food enthusiasts can relish the original Maddur Vada and sip fresh sugarcane juice from roadside stalls — a sweet reminder of Mandya's roots and agrarian heritage.



PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Pilgrims and trekkers alike converge on Mandya's sacred hills and riverside sanctuaries, where mythology, nature and craftsmanship intertwine.

The recognition of new destinations is expected to give a major boost to eco-tourism, rural homestays, and local entrepreneurship. The tourism department has announced plans to improve road connectivity, signage, and visitor facilities across key sites. Local communities are gearing up to offer guided heritage tours, traditional meals, and handmade crafts, creating new livelihood opportunities while preserving the region's heritage and fostering sustainable tourism models for the future.

For Bengalureans seeking a short yet enriching break, Mandya is no longer a stopover on the way to Mysuru — it has emerged as a destination where history, faith, and nature come together to narrate the timeless story of Karnataka's vibrant heartland.

Prison mismanagement scandal creates major flutter

2 days after videos went viral, senior officials shunted; BJP leaders detained after protests

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BJP leaders protest against VVIP treatment in state's prison, in city on Monday

IN FOCUS
VIP life in jail

Two days after a series of videos exposing preferential treatment at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison went viral, the state government on Monday transferred Chief Superintendent of Prisons K Suresh and suspended two junior officials, Jail Superintendent Magery and Assistant Superintendent Ashok Bhajantri,. Home Minister G Parameshwara said that for the first time, an IPS officer will be appointed to oversee Bengaluru Central Jail to ensure stricter supervision and accountability.

The action comes after videos surfaced showing undertrial inmates dancing and consuming alcohol inside the Parappana Agrahara facility. Another set of clips, shared earlier, allegedly showed suspected terror operative Zuhab Hammed Shakeel Manna, serial offender Umesh Reddy and actor Tarun, accused in the Ranya Rao case, using mobile phones and watching television inside the prison. Last year, nine officials were suspended after photos of actor Darshan smoking in custody emerged.

Addressing the media on Monday, Parameshwara said an IPS officer will now head the Bengaluru Central Prison for the first time, a move aimed at enhancing accountability. He clarified that some circulating videos date back to 2023, while only a few are from recent months. A high-power committee headed by the ADGP (Law and Order) has been constituted to inspect all prisons statewide and submit a report within a month. Strict action, including suspension or dismissal, will follow based on its findings.

The minister also announced a command centre to monitor all prisons, a technical audit of infrastructure, and enhanced security measures including additional CCTV cameras and communication towers. Recruitment of warders, instructors and assistant superintendents has been approved to address staff shortages. A technical team will also review mobile jammers to ensure network disruptions remain confined to prison premises.

Political chaos

The controversy has also ignited a political storm. Senior BJP leaders, including Leader of the Opposition R Ashoka and State BJP President BY Vijayendra were detained on Monday while protesting against the alleged VIP treatment in state prisons. Police stopped them near Race Course Road as they attempted to march toward the Chief Minister's residence, citing concerns over a potential law and order issue.

Meanwhile, The Central Crime Branch (CCB) has taken Kannada actor Dhaveer, a close aide of actor Darshan, into custody on suspicion of his involvement in releasing the Parappana Agrahara videos. He was detained late Sunday night and interrogated. The police also seized his mobile phone and sent it to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) for examination.

Anshu Kumar takes charge

Hours after disciplinary action was taken against three prison officials, the state government on Monday transferred Anshu Kumar, Superintendent of Police (Prisons), appointing him as the Chief Superintendent of Central Prison, Parappana Agrahara, Bengaluru, with immediate effect. He replaces K Suresha, who has been reassigned.

As per the official notification, the post of Chief Superintendent of Central Prison, Parappana Agrahara, has been declared equivalent in rank and responsibilities to the cadre post of Superintendent of Police, Mandya, in accordance with Rule 12 of the IPS (Pay) Rules, 2016.

IN SUPREME COURT

Pavithra Gowda's plea on bail cancellation rejected

The Supreme Court recently dismissed a plea filed by actor Pavithra Gowda, an accused in the Renukaswamy murder case along with actor Darshan and five others, seeking review of the apex court's August 14 decision cancelling her bail. A bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan noted that after carefully going through its August 14 order, no case for review is made out.

"These review petitions have been filed by the petitioner seeking review of the Order dated 14-8-2025 passed in the captioned Criminal Appeals, whereby the appeals filed by the State of Karnataka were allowed. We have carefully gone through the said Order and the record.

Centre gets notice on women's quota

The Supreme Court on Monday issued a notice to the Central government on a plea filed by Congress leader Jaya Thakur, seeking the implementation of a law for 33 per cent reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies.

A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and R Mahadevan asked the government to respond to the PIL seeking the implementation of the women's reservation law without waiting for the conduct of a fresh delimitation exercise. The bench, during the hearing, observed, "Preamble (to the Constitution of India) says (all citizens are entitled to) political and social equality. Who is the largest minority in this country? It is the woman... almost 48 per cent. This is about the political equality of women."

Suo motu case on Phalodi, Telagana crashes

The Supreme Court has taken suo moto cognisance of a road accident in Rajasthan's Phalodi, where a tempo carrying pilgrims struck a stationary truck killing 15 people. While hearing the matter on Monday, the Court directed the NHAI (National Highway Authority of India) to submit a report explaining how Dhabas along the national highways are situated in areas which are not notified as Facility areas by the authorities. A bench of Justices JK Maheshwari and Vijay Bishnoi also asked the NHAI to submit report on the bad conditions of the highways despite tolls being collected.

IN BRIEF

Darakhasthu campaign stalls amid technical chaos

The Revenue Department's Darakhasthu Podi Durusti (land subdivision and rectification) campaign — launched to settle over two lakh pending land cases — has slowed due to widespread operational challenges. The internal review reveals a mix of technical, legal, and logistical hurdles across districts. Many survey numbers remain partly marked as forest or reserved land with undefined borders, while overlapping maps, boundary mismatches, and small unallocated gaps between plots add to confusion. Disputes among multiple holders, absent landowners, and poor internet connectivity in hilly regions have further delayed GPS-based surveys.

Out of 1.4 lakh applications, about 72,000 have been measured, with 22,000 finalised online. Around 20,000 files are still with surveyors and 33,000 await revenue clearance. Additional complications stem from unresolved "94C" land grant cases and missing mobile details in the crop update system.

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda acknowledged that floods and software glitches caused temporary setbacks but assured that corrective steps are underway. Governments targets 1.6 lakh land measurments by December. -BMB

K'taka to e-auction dormant liquor licences

In a first, the Karnataka Excise Department will soon hold online e-auctions for 579 liquor shop licences, including bars and retail outlets that have long remained unrenewed or non-operational. The initiative—made possible through amendments to the Karnataka Excise (Sale of Indian and Foreign Liquor) Rules, 2025—is projected to generate nearly 1,500 crore for the state exchequer.

Officials said a comprehensive list of CL-2, CL-9, and CL-11C licences that have expired, lapsed, or been seized due to non-renewal or the death of licence holders is being finalised. These licences will be reallocated through a digital bidding platform, with the highest bidder securing rights for a fixed tenure within designated zones.

The government has also introduced reservation criteria for issuing new CL-2A and CL-9A licences via e-auction.

As per the November 3 notification, district collectors can grant licences only with prior approval from the Excise Commissioner and in accordance with each auction's conditions. -BMB

Tigress, three cubs rescued near Gundlupet

The Karnataka Forest Department has rescued a five-year-old tigress and her three cubs from Kalahalli village in Gundlupet taluk, about 15 km from the nearest forest area. The operation, conducted with the help of three trained elephants, began after officials confirmed the tigress had repeatedly ventured into human settlements and attacked livestock. The rescue was completed on Monday morning, with the tigress and her cubs—two females and one male—now under veterinary care and close observation. This follows the earlier capture of a nine-year-old male tiger from the Moleyur range on November 8. Forest officials said capture drives are ongoing across the region to prevent human-tiger conflicts that have killed three farmers,by locating, tranquilising, and safety relocating big cats straying into farmlands and villages. -BMB

High alert in Delhi after explosion in car kills at least 8 near Red Fort

At least eight people were killed in an explosion in a car near the historic Red Fort in a densely populated district of the Indian capital Delhi, a city police spokesperson said.

The exact cause of the blast was being investigated, city police spokesperson Sanjay Tyagi said. However, India's financial capital of Mumbai as well as its most populous state of Uttar Pradesh, which borders Delhi, went on high security alert after the blast, local media reported.

"Eight people have been killed in the explosion," Tyagi said. At least 20 people were injured, TV channels reported, as ambulances raced to the scene. Mangled bodies and the wreckage of several cars could be seen on a congested street near a metro station in the old quarter of Delhi, as police poured into the area to secure it and push back gathering crowds.

Delhi Police Commissioner Satish Golcha said the blast took place minutes before 7.00 p.m. (1330 GMT).

"A slow-moving vehicle stopped at a red light. An explosion happened in that vehicle, and due to the explosion, nearby vehicles were also damaged," he told reporters.

"The situation is being monitored," headded.

At least six vehicles and three auto-rickshaws caught fire, Delhi's deputy fire chief said later, adding that the flames had been doused by firefighting teams.

"We heard a big sound, our windows shook," one resident who did not give a name, told NDTV. The Red Fort, known locally as Lal Qila, is a sprawling, 17th-century Mughal-era edifice melding Persian and Indian architectural styles, and is visited by tourists throughout the year.

The prime minister addresses the nation from the fort's ramparts every year on August 15, India's independence day. **—Reuters**

Dams turn into death traps

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and Manchanbele, along with numerous other water bodies, remain without proper safety measures. This neglect results in recurring tragedies every year, claiming precious lives. Tourist spots near Bengaluru witness heavy visitor inflow, especially during weekends and holidays. However, the district administration has failed to implement necessary precautionary measures such as safety signage or deployment of security personnel. This lack of attention has sparked public outrage.

According to locals, many who visit reservoirs to relieve stress have even died by suicide by jumping from dams. Unaware of the dangers, visitors have drowned in reservoirs due to inadequate safety supervision. The dam bunds themselves have become "death traps". During the monsoon when water levels rise, many lakes overflow, attracting visitors who often lose their lives while attempting to swim or explore these areas.

No safety measures

Among the taluk's key tourist attractions, Kanva and Iggalur dams see frequent visitors, yet no adequate security arrangements are in place. Numerous fatal incidents near these sites have been reported. Before entering the water, young men and women must be fully informed about the dangers of these sites. Without proper awareness and caution, such fatal incidents will continue to recur. Locals urged the authorities to urgently institute effective safety protocols at all water bodies to prevent further loss of life.

Your Connect

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I FAYAZ AHAMED AMEER JAN S/o Ameer Jan R/o No 5/1 7th Main 14th Cross Padarayanapura Bangalore 560026 have changed my name to FAYAZ AHMED for all Purposes

I Karthick Umapathy Shankaramma S/O, Umapathy Naidu Mallinalu R/o G4,sri Baireshwara Nilaya,37/38,2b Cross, maruthi Layout, dasarahalli, bengaluru-560024 have changed my name to Karthik Umapathy Shankaramma Vide Affidavit Dated 06 Nov 2025 By Ar Muneer Ahmed.

CHANGE OF NAME

I **Raghavendra Prasad BR** Resident of # 112 Radha Nilaya New town Bethamangala Srirama Temple Back side K.G.F (T) Kolar , Bethamangala-563116 I state That I Have Changed my Name from **Ragavendra Prasad R** To **Raghavendra Prasad BR** Vide Affidavit Dated 10/11/2025 Sworn Before Thangaraj .S Notary Public At K.G.F court hall.

I, Priyanka W/o Shivang Mittal R/o # 384-01042, Wing 1 Sobha Windsor, Phs-1, Vijayanagar, immadihalli mn rd, White Field, Bangalore-560068, have changed my name to Priyanka Goyal for all purposes.

I, BHARATH, P. S/o. Sri. PANDIYAN, R., Resident at: No. 325, Lakshmanapuri, KG Road, Bengaluru-560 009, declare that wrongly entered as PANDIAN R correct name is PANDIYA R vide Affidavit dated 08.11.2025. sworn before notary V. Anjanappa, B'lore

I, SARAVANA. C. S/o. Sri. Chokkalingam Resident at No. 1768/58, 12th A Main Road, Prakash Nagar, Sriram, Bengaluru- 560 021, have changed my name to SARAVANAN vide Affidavit dated 08.11.2025. sworn before notary V. Anjanappa, B'lore

I Arun Kumar Shetty, S/o, Mahabala Shetty Tekkte, Residing At, No 62-A, Sridurga,1st C Cross 2nd, Main 3rd Stage, 4th Block, Basaveshwaranagar, Bengaluru 560079 have changed my name to Heggunje Arun Kumar Shetty for all purposes.

I, ASIF R/o No 3/6 umar farooq masjid street neelsandra Bangalore 560047 have changed my name to ASIF SHARIEF for all Purposes.

I, SANAULLA KHAN (Old Name) S/o Ameer Khan resident of No. 12/1, 4th Cross, Conservancy Sirsi Road, Mohammadan Block, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018 have changed my name to AMEER SANAULLA KHAN (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 10/11/2025 Before Notary Deepa. M Bangalore.

LOST & FOUND

LOST: I, B V MAYURA, S/o LATE. UDAY KUMAR, Property in the name of my father Late. UDAY KUMAR, have lost the ORIGINAL SALE DEED of the property bearing NELAMANGALA TALUK, KASABA HOBLI, VAJARA HALLI VILLAGE, Khata No.105/107 measuring 1200 sq ft, registered at NELAMAN GALA SUB REGISTRAR OFFICE, lost while getting a EC in NELAMANGALA SUB REGISTRAR OFFICE only, regarding this i have given a police complaint (GSC No.31/2025) dt: 18.02.2025, Finder please contact: 9845196856 or Handover to the nearest police station.

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MADHYA PRADESH 15 DAYS: NOV: 28 DEC: 19, 28 JAN: 5, 19
GUJARAT/RAJASTHAN* 12/16*/25 DAYS
NOV: 14 DEC: 12, 12* 21, 26, 26* JAN: 1, 7, 12, 17*, 21, 26, 31*
KASHI AYODHYA GAYA/HARIDWAR 11/16* DAYS
NOV: 30* DEC: 1, 7*, 10, 14*, 20, 21* JAN: 1, 11, 19
KASHI NAIMISHARANYA CHITRAKOOT 14/10* DAYS
DEC: 8, 10*, 17, 19*, 24, 26*
OMKARESHWAR MAHAKALESHWAR 8 DAYS NOV: 18 DEC: 2, 9, 16
ASSAM MEGHALAYA/ARUNACHAL* 8/14* DAYS NOV: 28* DEC: 8, 22

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Predators vs prey on social media

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

platforms and uneven local enforcement have allowed such content to thrive on social media sites like Instagram and Facebook.

In most cases, once a person responds to these offers, they are pulled into a trap that soon turns into financial fraud or blackmail. Victims are often asked to pay small "booking" amounts at first, followed by additional charges for "room rent," "security," or "protection." When they realise that they have been cheated, many choose to remain silent, fearing social embarrassment or exposure.

How the scams work

Many scammers run open social media profiles posing as escort or adult-content accounts, complete with rate cards for "sessions" or "packages." Once a person responds or makes a small payment, the trap is laid. Offenders start with friendly chats to build trust, then persuade victims to share personal photos, join video calls, or meet in person. These interactions are often secretly recorded. Later, victims are blackmailed with threats to leak the content unless they pay and the extortion usually continues through repeated "settlement" or "protection" demands.

Rise of online honey-trap and dating scams

With growing number of online solicitations, the number of honey-trap and dating-app-linked crimes in recent months have also seen a surge. In these cases, strangers connect via dating apps or social media, lure victims into compromising situations, and then demand money or valuables.

While the scams are becoming increasingly sophisticated, police response has not kept up with the speed and scale of the online networks. Victims report losses ranging from a few thousand rupees to several lakhs. Yet the majority of incidents go unreported, largely because of social stigma, fear of reputational damage or a lack of confidence in authorities.

In one recent incident, a 26-year-old man lost gold ornaments worth nearly ₹7 lakh after meeting a woman on a dating app. Police say the victim had taken the woman to a pub in Indiranagar. Later that night, she claimed it was too late for her to return to her paying-guest accommodation and convinced him to accompany her to a nearby serviced apartment. After they ordered food, she offered him a glass of water which was allegedly spiked. When he awoke the next morning, his ornaments were missing. The Indiranagar police have registered a case and launched an investigation, suspecting that the woman may form part of a larger network operating via dating platforms.

Similarly, a case in Yelahanka involved a tech professional who was extorted of approximately ₹2 lakh after connecting via a dating app, with the gang falsely accusing him of drug possession.

Many victims choose silence

Experts and police officials point out that a majority of victims in such cases choose not to come forward or file formal complaints, despite suffering financial or emotional losses. A police official said social stigma remains the biggest deterrent, many fear being judged by family members, friends, or society if their interactions on dating apps or social media become public. The fear of reputational damage is particularly strong among professionals, they said.

Experts say the surge in honey-trap cases demands a coordinated response, combining stricter action against online advertising of sexual services, improved cyber-patrol mechanisms, and more accessible victim-support systems. Police have urged users to exercise caution while interacting on dating apps and to immediately report any incident involving blackmail, extortion, or assault.

HEALTH TIP: Decongestant nasal sprays may provide relief from stuffiness but using them too often can lead to rebound congestion and dryness

Siberian ginseng is an herb that is an adaptogen (normalises bodily functions) is an excellent stress buster

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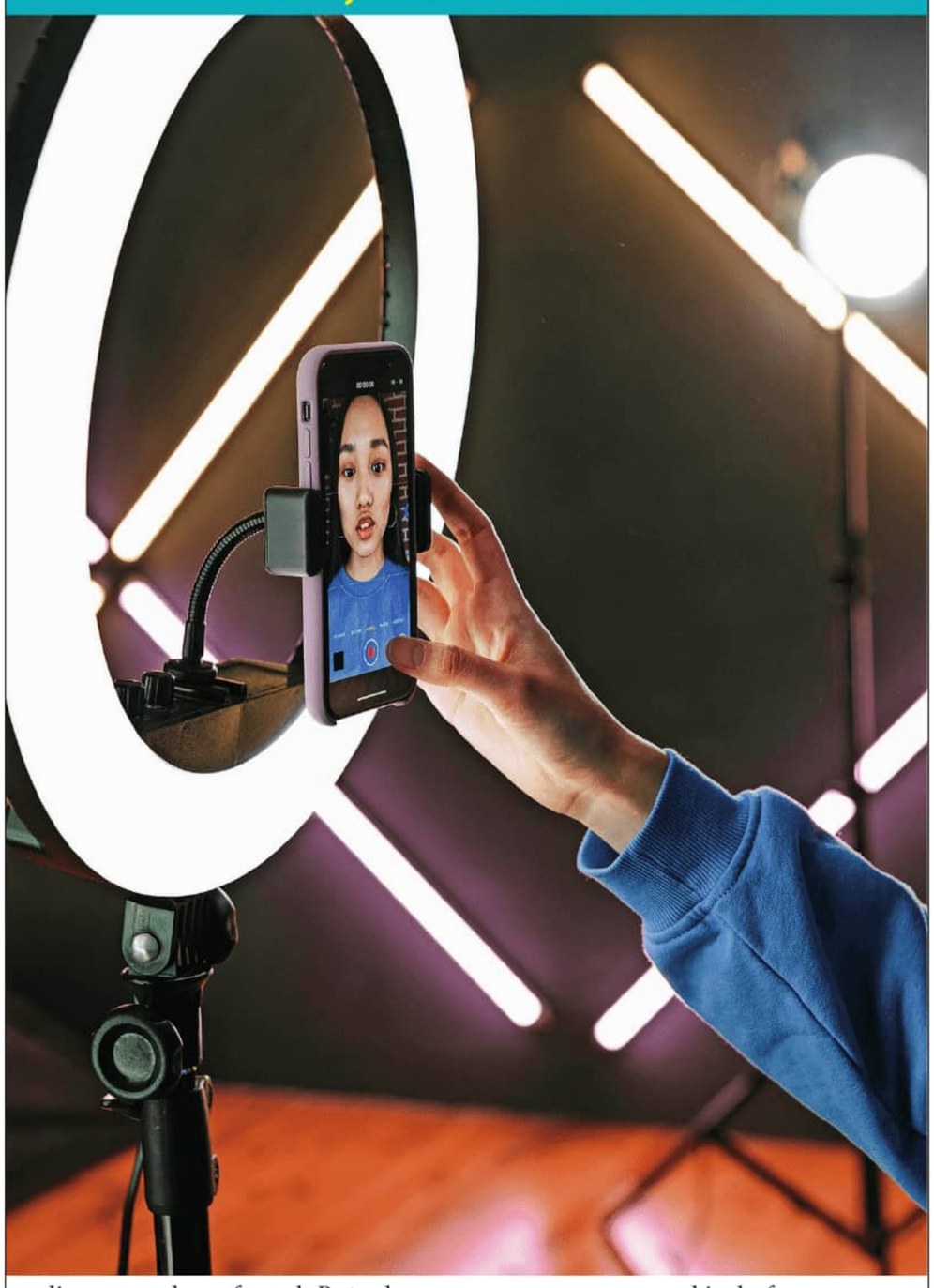
THE BEAUTY BACKFIRE EFFECT

Being too attractive can hurt fitness influencers, new research shows



"Sex sells" has been a mantra in marketing for decades. As researchers who study consumer behavior, we've seen plenty of evidence to support it: Attractive models and spokespeople have been shown to reliably grab attention, boost clicks and make products seem more desirable.

But our new research suggests that in a digital world full of influencers – trusted tastemakers with large online followings – being too attractive can actually backfire, particularly in the fitness space.

We call this the "beauty backfire effect," and we put it to the test in a series of laboratory experiments.

We showed hundreds of study participants mock Instagram posts from fictitious fitness influencer accounts. The posts were identical in every way, except for one key difference: how attractive the influencer was. We judged this by asking independent raters to evaluate photos of real influencers ahead of time.

The results were striking: We found that extremely attractive fitness influencers – or "fitfluencers" – got fewer likes and follows than their moderately attractive peers.

Why? Because people viewed them as less relatable.

In fact, in one of our studies, people who saw an extremely attractive fitfluencer reported having lower self-esteem afterward. In contrast, seeing a moderately attractive fitfluencer gave some participants a small confidence boost, likely because the image felt more attainable.

Interestingly, the beauty backfire effect wasn't as strong in other domains. When we ran the same experiment with finance influencers in the mix, appearance didn't matter as much. That's not entirely surprising, of course. For a financial coach, looks aren't tied to credibility. Meanwhile, for a fitness coach, they're central.

But the beauty backfire effect isn't inevitable. In a final analysis, we explored whether self-presentation style could close the relatability gap.

When highly attractive influencers adopted a humble tone, sharing their struggles, training challenges or fitness plateaus, the engagement gap disappeared, we found. But when they adopted a prideful tone, boasting about their natural talent or exceptional dedication, the gap grew even larger.

This suggests that humility can be a powerful communication tool for influencers who might otherwise seem "out of reach."

Why it matters

Fitfluencers depend on their appearance as a kind of credential. A sculpted physique signals expertise in health and wellness. But engagement isn't just about how good someone looks on camera. It's about whether followers feel they can connect with them.

This is where relatability comes in. Audiences connect with fitfluencers who feel like real, reachable versions of themselves. But extreme attractiveness does the opposite: It turns an attainable goal into an impossible ideal, and what should inspire instead alienates.

This effect aligns with classic social comparison theory. People judge themselves in relation to others. If the gap between self and fitfluencer seems too wide, comparisons become discouraging, not motivating. In other words, the more "perfect" the fitfluencer looks, the less followers believe they can realistically be like them – and the less likely they are to engage.

Social media platforms have been taking note. These days, TikTok, Snapchat and other outlets build their appeal on candid, authentic content over polished, airbrushed imagery. In this new landscape, perfection can be a liability.

Our research shows that extreme attractiveness might grab attention but can undermine connection, the true currency of the influencer economy. For brands and creators, the takeaway is clear: Success may depend less on looking flawless and more on sounding real.

What's next

Our findings raise new questions about how beauty shapes influence online.

For instance, gender appears to matter. In a follow-up study, highly attractive female fitness influencers faced stronger backlash than equally attractive men, perhaps reflecting a broader social tendency to judge women's looks more harshly. Future research could explore whether similar biases apply to other visible traits, such as race or disability.

The effect may also extend beyond fitness. Industries built around appearance – fashion, beauty or lifestyle content – could show the same pattern.

Finally, not all audiences respond alike. People new to fitness or younger users still forming their identities may be especially prone to negative comparisons with highly attractive fitfluencers. Understanding these differences could help creators and platforms foster healthier engagement online.

Andrew Edelblum, University of Dayton and Abby Frank, University of Oregon, The Conversation

MIRRORLIGHTS

Online gaming puts children's health at risk: Report

The evolution of the online gaming industry has not only increased exposure among children but also raised concerns over addiction and exploitation, according to a report by CyberPeace.

The report highlighted that a systematic policy intervention is needed to safeguard children from these growing risks.

The report pointed out that early exposure to online gaming can have a negative developmental impact on young children. It added that researchers, educators, and mental health professionals have increasingly expressed concern over its effects on children's physical and emotional well-being.

It stated, "The negative impact of early exposure to online gaming on young children is increasingly becoming a topic of concern"

In terms of physical development, the report mentioned that studies have shown that prolonged gaming is linked with various health issues.

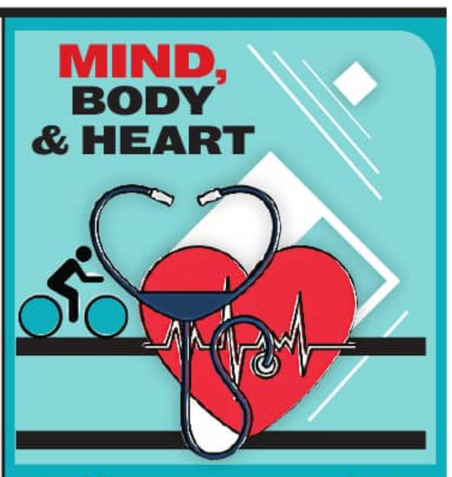
The PEACH project (Personal and Environmental Associations with Children's Health), a longitudinal observational study, found that children with higher screen time had higher body mass index (BMI) and were more likely to be overweight.

Excessive gaming promotes a sedentary lifestyle, leading to obesity and related health problems.

The report further stated that teenagers who spend more time playing video games face a higher risk of developing obesity due to reduced physical activity.

The growing number of young people being treated for obesity-related issues has also been partially attributed to increased screen time associated with gaming.

Incessant gaming can cause repetitive strain injuries such as carpal tunnel syndrome, as continuous mouse clicking or controller use puts pressure on the hands and wrists. The addictive nature of online gaming can also disrupt sleep patterns. In addition, excessive gaming has been linked to cardiovascular problems, the report noted. —ANI



All you need to know about...

Pimple causes

1. Unclean pillowcases
The pillowcase you rest your face on every night can be a hidden culprit behind recurring pimples. Sweat, oil, dead skin cells and leftover makeup residue accumulate on the fabric over time, creating a perfect breeding ground for bacteria.
When your face comes in contact with this dirty surface, it can clog pores and cause inflammation, leading to stubborn breakouts, especially on your cheeks and jawline. Changing pillowcases at least twice a week and opting for breathable materials like cotton or silk can help reduce friction.

2. Phone screen
Every time you press your phone against your face, you might be transferring bacteria, oil and dirt directly to your skin. Studies have shown that phone screens can harbor more germs than a public restroom!
Constantly touching your phone with unwashed hands adds another layer of contamination. This bacterial transfer can lead to clogged pores and acne around your cheeks, chin and jawline which is commonly called "phone acne."

3. Hair products
Hair serums, sprays and conditioners can sometimes be the hidden reason behind forehead and temple breakouts, also known as "pomade acne." These products often contain oils, silicones and waxes that can seep onto your skin, blocking pores and causing whiteheads.
If you notice acne along your hairline or near your neck, your haircare routine might be to blame. Try switching to lightweight, non-comedogenic hair products and ensure you thoroughly cleanse your skin after using styling sprays or oils.

4. Stress
Stress doesn't just affect your mind but it can wreak havoc on your skin too. When you're under pressure, your body releases cortisol, a stress hormone that increases oil production in your skin's glands. —Femina

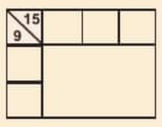
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

An integer has 4 factors that add to 40 and multiply to 729. What is the integer?

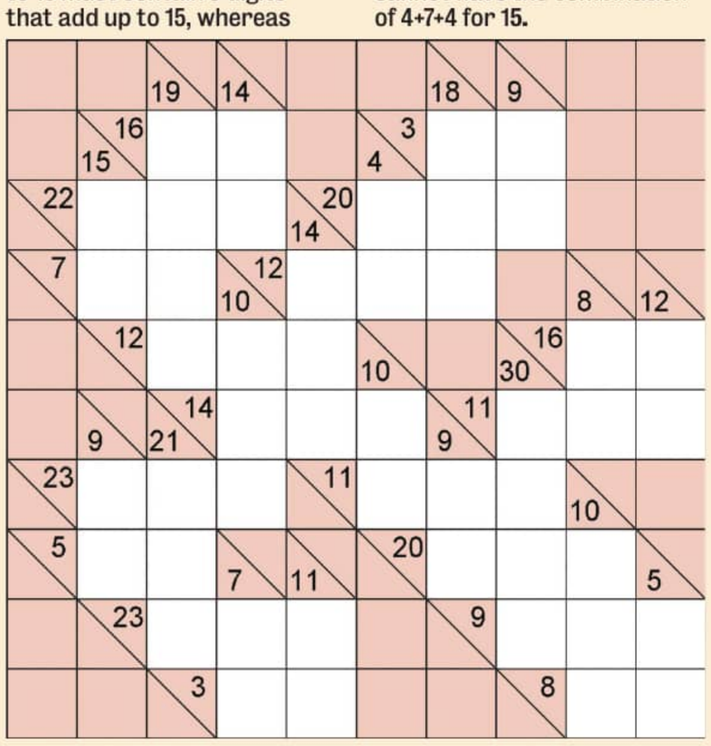
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

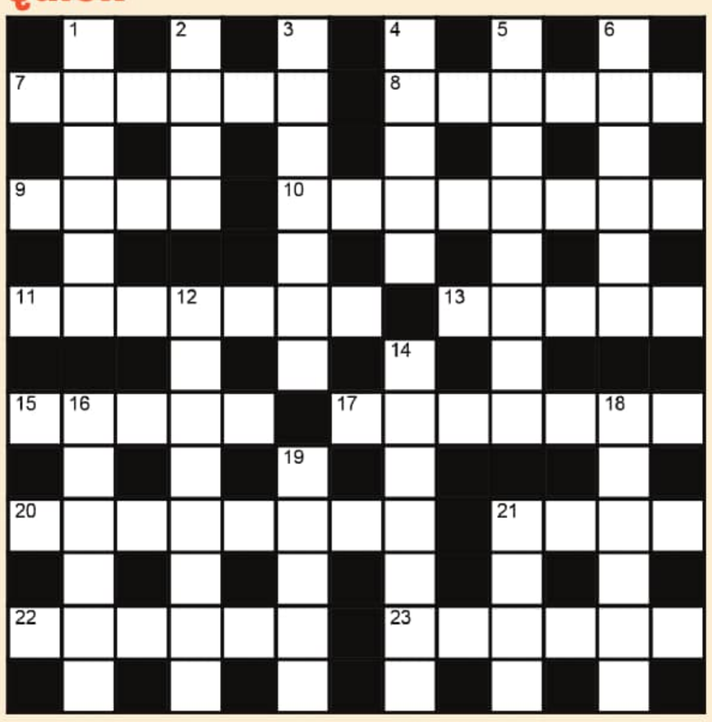
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Loosened the laces, perhaps? (6)
8 Inflammation of the ear (6)
9 Some bar orders? (4)
10 Investigated, scrutinised or explored (8)
11 Cheater–one going back on his word (7)
13 Reason (5)
15 Advantages (5)
17 Toy dog breed (7)
20 50 kms from Bangalore, this area is a favourite for rock climbers (8)
21 Pull or lug with hand (4)
22 Common fabric (6)
23 Long loose dress (6)

DOWN

1 One behind another (2,4)
2 Immerses in water (4)
3 Sticks fast (7)
4 Raid (5)
5 Hissing or sounded with a hiss (8)
6 Upper arm muscle (6)
12 Infinite duration (8)
14 Ruthless competitive struggle (3-4)
16 Mythical monster (6)
18 RK's __ Shivam Sundaram (6)
19 Representative (5)
21 Upper-class gent (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS G

QZGV NLCYOVX VHVIBQLZYO VWNVJQ XPGVQLZYO UZQLZY KX ULZNL ZX CAUCBX XKIJIZXVM TB NLCYOV.

Linemaro

(As she is leaving) Hey, aren't you forgetting something? (What?) Me!

Mindchow

"How do you know so much about everything?" was asked of a very wise and intelligent man; and the answer was "By never being afraid or ashamed to ask questions as to anything of which I was ignorant."

Joke of the day

So I'm at the wailing wall, standing there like a moron, with my harpoon

Loop

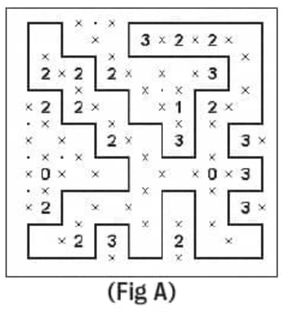
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

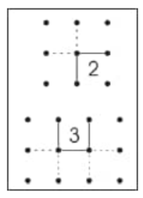
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

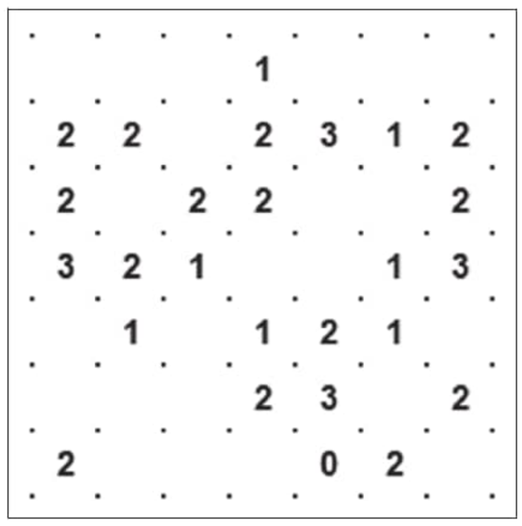
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



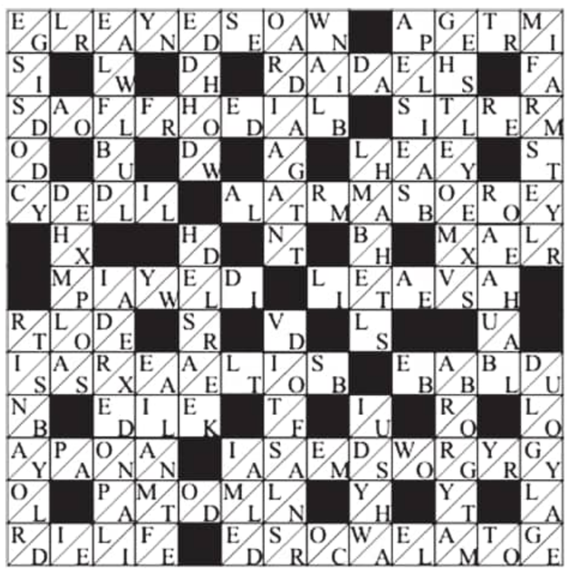
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



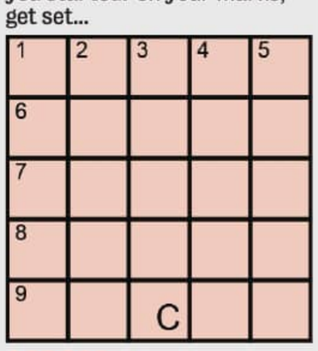
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

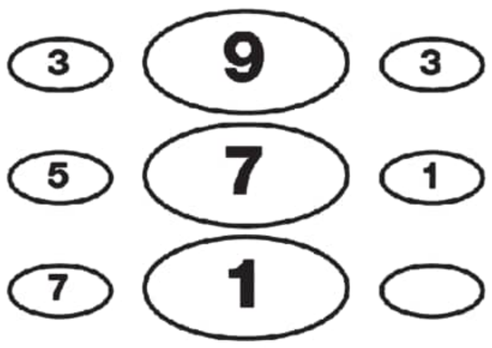
1 Has CL; 6 As the; 7 In die; 8 Lidar; 9 Slick

DOWN

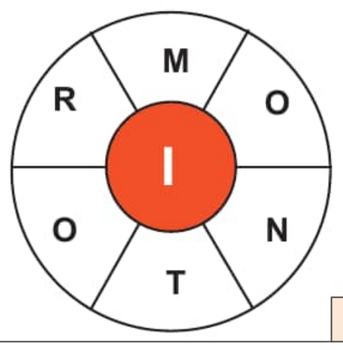
1 Hill C; 2 Liana; 3 Cadis; 4 Skirt; 5 Ed she

Mensapuzzle

Which number is missing?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; **08** Good; **10** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

7		5	1		6	4		2
8		2		3		5		9
		3	8		5	7		
		9				8		
		6	7		1	9		
2		4		1		3		8
9		8	3		4	2		6

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy

= 9

2 5 7 9

Medium

= 15

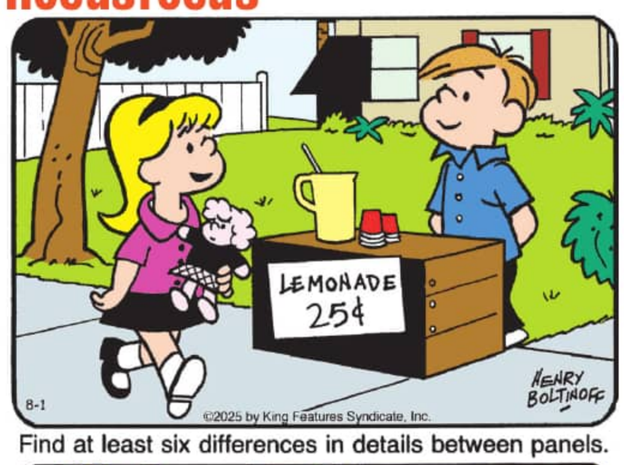
2 2 3 3

Hard

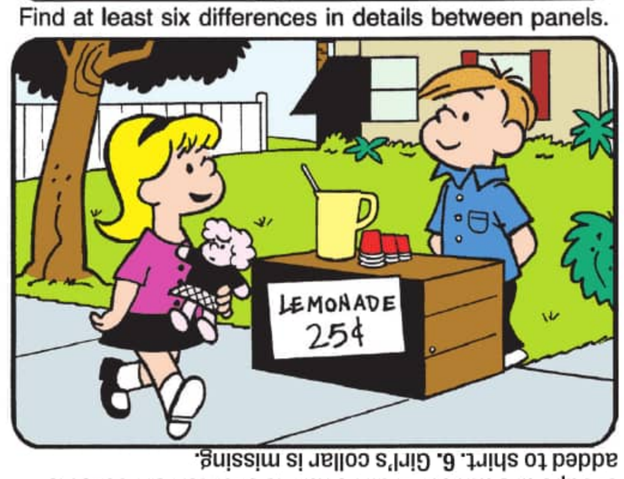
= 35

2 5 6 9

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



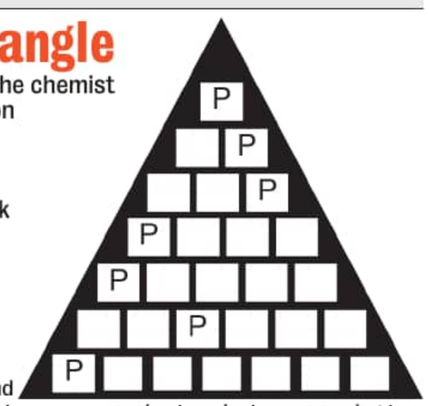
Differences: 1. Pitcher is reversed. **2.** Nails are missing. **3.** Cups are added. **4.** Girl's hair is shorter. **5.** Pocket is added to shirt. **6.** Girl's collar is missing.

Riddler

In myth a lure unto death. In truth a way of saving lives. A piercing scream that takes no breath. Opens ways for one who drives. Who or what is it?

Alpha triangle

1 Phosphorus for the chemist
2 Arith. Progression
3 Hit sharply
4 Juicy fruit
5 Cuts
6 Gives money back
7 Performers



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

THEY IS ONE WAY I BET I KIN TELL ME REAL LI'L BOY KID!!
HE ALWAYS GIVES ME A GOOD-NIGHT KISS... SO I WILL GO TO BED!
GOOD NIGHT!
HELP!!
SMACK!
SMACK!
SMACK!
SMACK!
2-10
popeye.com
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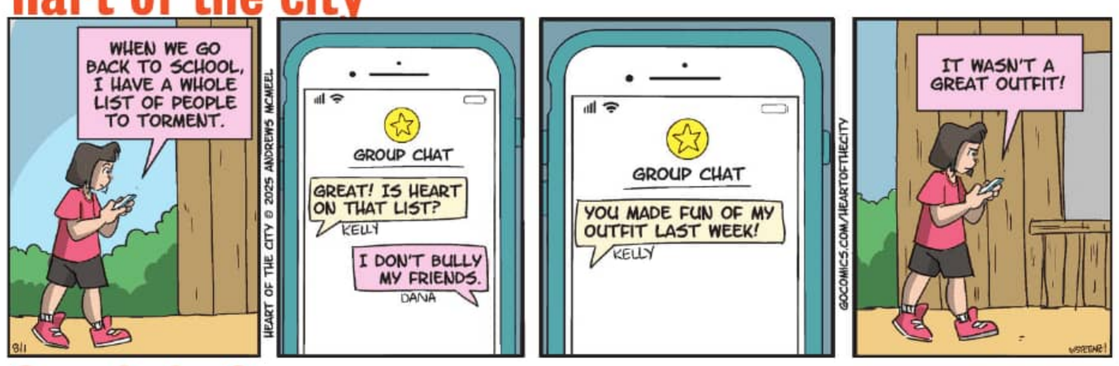
Bizarrotrip

Shall we watch a troubled but brilliant detective from America, Western Europe or Scandinavia?
8·1·25 Wayno & Piraro
Dist. by King Features
BIZARRO.COM ©2025 BIZARRO STUDIOS

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city


WHEN WE GO BACK TO SCHOOL, I HAVE A WHOLE LIST OF PEOPLE TO TORMENT.
GROUP CHAT
GREAT! IS HEART ON THAT LIST?
KELLY
I DON'T BULLY MY FRIENDS.
DANA
GROUP CHAT
YOU MADE FUN OF MY OUTFIT LAST WEEK!
KELLY
IT WASN'T A GREAT OUTFIT!
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

AND WHAT IS YOUR REASON FOR VISITING CANADA?
I'M HERE TO SEE A BLUE BOMBERS GAME!
AND WHO'S THEIR QUARTERBACK?
ZACH COLLAROS!
YOU'RE GOOD.
I PASSED THE QUARTERBACK TEST!
NO PUN INTENDED.
© 2025 Hodgepodge, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

Your finances require a more pragmatic, grounded approach; avoid any temptation for high-risk schemes. Career success comes from focusing diligently on foundational work and perfecting important details. Love finds you seeking a partner who can match your specific intellectual energy. Cherishing family traditions creates many new, treasured memories.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20

Release the past and trust divine timing. Misunderstandings don't lessen your truth; embrace your individuality without conforming. Some relationships may fade naturally, making space for genuine growth and authentic new beginnings.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20

Begin by forgiving yourself. Let go of self-criticism and past compromises. Simplify your world by choosing peace over pressure. A meaningful, slower rhythm will weave your life into something beautifully balanced.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21

Your dreams carry valuable insight; listen closely. Step back and view situations objectively for clarity and healing. Pay attention to your body's needs; peace of mind may ease lingering sensitivities or tension.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23

Your dedication is bearing fruit. Stay passionate, and trust that your path is aligning. Welcome new, like-minded people and allow self-reflection to shape your direction. Follow your heart with confidence.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Let go of resentment and guilt; they weigh you down. You're building something lasting. Prioritise wellness, honest communication, and emotional healing. Open your heart and make room for love's pure energy.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23

Pause to reassess your routines. Simplify, delegate, and focus on what truly matters. Distance in relationships will ease naturally. Patience and faith will turn your persistent efforts into tangible success.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22

Treat yourself with tenderness. The storm is clearing, revealing newfound balance. Celebrate progress and simple joys. Each small step forward reflects your resilience and the quiet beauty of your healing journey.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22

Clarify your desires; be bold and specific. The universe responds to your precision. Take decisive action toward your goals and trust that your clear intentions will soon manifest meaningful results.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22

Slow your pace and embrace emotional depth. Vulnerability leads to true connection. Allow yourself to love fully and live presently; balance in heart and mind brings harmony to all areas of life.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20

Be present and forgiving with yourself. You don't need every answer right now. Pause, breathe, and accept your humanity. Self-compassion and mindfulness restore balance amid life's endless motion.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19

Set firm, loving boundaries and protect your peace. When life feels chaotic, grounding yourself is key. Stand tall in self-worth; others will adjust as your confidence and clarity strengthen.

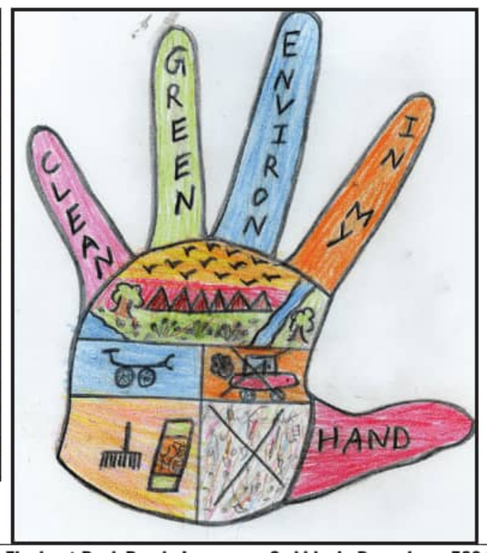
Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20

Healing is possible; don't give up on connection. Approach strained relationships with empathy and patience. Avoid impulsive choices, focus on emotional recovery, and let your gentle energy inspire reconciliation and peace.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE

Praneeth, Bengaluru



Karthik, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M a+b+c+d=40; a*b*c*d=729
a=1; 729/2 is not an integer; 729/3=integer 243
b=3; 243/4 is not an integer; 243/5 is; not an integer; 243/6 is not an integer
243/7 is not an integer; 243/8 is not an integer; 243/9=integer 27 c=9
a+b+c+d=40; 1+3+9+d=40; d=40-1-3-9
d=27; Validate: a+b+c+d=40; 1+3+9+27=40
a*b*c*d=729; 1*3*9*27=729

RIDDLER Siren

BULL'S EYE into, iron, trio, minor, mint, MONITOR, motion, omit, riot, trim,

FAST FIVE

C	L	A	S	H
H	A	S	T	E
I	N	D	I	E
L	A	I	R	D
L	I	C	K	S

STRIKE OUT

G	R	A	N	D	S	O	N		P	E	R	M		
I		W	H		R	I	A	L	S		A			
D	A	F	F	O	D	I	L		L	E	E	T		
D		U		W		G		L	E	E	T			
Y	E	L	L		L	A	M	A	S	E	R	Y		
A	P	N	A		I	A	M	S	O	R	R	Y		
B		E	L	K		T		U		O		O		
I	S	R	A	E	L	I	S		B	A	L	D		
R	O	D		R		V		L	E	A	S	H		
P	A	W	E	D		L	E	A	S	H				
	X			D		N		B		M	A	R		
Y	E	L	L		L	A	M	A	S	E	R	Y		
D		U		W		G		L	E	E	T			
D	A	F	O	D	I	L		I	T	E	R			
I		W	H		R	I	A	L	S		A			
G	R	A	N	D	S	O	N		P	E	R	M		

QUICK

												N		
								T		Y				
C	O		T	T	O		N							
												G		
R	A	M	N	A	G	A	R							
												R		
E	D	G	E	S		M	A	L	T	E	S	E		
					S									
R	E	N	E	G	E	R		C	A	U	S	E		
G	I	N	S		E	X	A	M	I	N	E	D		
U	N	T	I	E	D		A		F		S			
I		D		A										

MENSA PUZZLE

3. Working in rows, the figure on the right equals half the difference between the left and central numbers.

QUOTE UNCODE

Time changes everything except something within us which is always surprised by change.

SUDOKU

6	3	7	5	2	8	1	9	4
9	1	8	3	7	4	2	5	6
2	5	4	6	1	9	3	7	8
5	8	6	7	4	1	9	2	3
1	7	9	2	6	3	8	4	5
4	2	3	8	9	5	7	6	1
8	6	2	4	3	7	5	1	9
7	9	5	1	8	6	4	3	2
3	4	1	9	5	2	6	8	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE

P, AP, Rap, Pear, Pares, Repays, Players.

GO FIGURE

Easy
7 - 2 - 5 + 9 = 9
Medium
2 x 2 x 3 + 3 = 15
Hard
6 + 9 x 2 + 5 = 35

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 18, Issue No 221 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by Lokesh K.V. at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru - 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon - responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Dharmendra in hospital
Veteran actor Dharmendra is said to be stable, and is currently under observation. The actor was admitted to a hospital in Mumbai earlier on Monday

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Suniel's link with city

Suniel Shetty, who has acted in around 100 movies in Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam, recalled his connection with Namma Bengaluru. Shetty was in the city for the trailer launch of Jai, a movie made in Tulu and Kannada, by director Roopesh Shetty of Bigg Boss fame.

"I am from Karnataka. I visit Bengaluru frequently because my sister and relatives live here. I have sweet memories of the city. I was very close to Dr Rajkumar and Puneeth Rajkumar. Kichcha Sudeep is my dearest friend. I have been working in Maharashtra and it is my karmabhoomi and my janmabhoomi is Mulki in Karnataka," said Suniel Shetty.

Anchor Anushree unveiled the trailer. Roopesh, who also plays the lead in the film, said he was very happy with the response so far. "Our plan was to make this movie in Tulu only but we decided to make it in Kannada too because of Suniel. We met Suniel Shetty through the producer," he said.

Udaala on Nov 14

The trailer of Udaala was unveiled by actors Naveen Shankar and Nishvika Naidu on Thursday at MMB Legacy. The movie, directed by Amol Patil, is scheduled for release on November 14. It is produced by Yogaraj Cinemas and Ravi Shamanur Films. Prithvi Shamanur, who plays the lead in Padavipoorva, makes a comeback after a gap of three years.

Stating that making people laugh is a challenging task, producer Yogaraj Bhat said director Patil succeeded in making this movie a romantic comedy. "Ravi Shamanur, a teacher by profession, is one of the producers of this movie. Prithvi Shamanur can establish himself as an actor in Sandalwood if he focuses on his acting career," Bhat said.

Ravi Shamanur said Udaala is his second movie as a producer in association with Yogaraj Bhat. Patil, who makes debut as a director with this movie, said that the beauty, culture, and traditions of North Karnataka have not been given importance in Kannada movies. "Our movie showcases the traditions and culture of North Karnataka," he said.

FITNESS MANTRAS

Shilpa Shetty's tips are something we would like to follow

No one does fitness in Bollywood like Shilpa Shetty does, and she has a fitness challenge for everyone on board. The 50-year-old actress shared a clip on her social media, inspiring others to take that dumbbell and work with magic.

Shetty lifted the dumbbell from behind with a single hand, as she tightly gripped the other on his back while squatting. While the actress failed in the first attempt, she took the motto of never stopping till you get it right. The actress picked up the dumbbell in the second attempt and flexed the move. "Looks easy… until you actually try it! Trust your core (and the dumbbell behind you). Now it's your turn to give this a go and show me your version," she said in the caption. Fans quickly shared inspirational notes and hearts in the comment section.

Earlier this year, Shetty posted a video of her engaging in functional training with jumps on the fitness stool. Giving the benefits of the particular workout, she said, "Hop, drop, but never stop Benefits: • Boosts heart health & endurance • Burns more calories with short choreographies • Engages mind with focus & coordination • Tones and conditions legs & hips."

Meanwhile, Shetty and her husband Raj Kundra are circling legal matters, as they seek the dismissal of a Rs 60-crore fraud case filed by Mumbai police's economic offenses wing. The couple has also requested the court to prevent the police from taking coercive action while their pleas are being heard, as per PTI. —ETimes

First exam, then film

Actress Aneet Padda, who was recently seen in the blockbuster "Shakti Shalini", is set to appear for her college final-year exams in December-January, after which she will begin work on her next film, "Shakti Shalini".

A source said: "It is incredible that Aneet Padda is so young and she has become such a massive success story in our country. The Gen Z face of India is set to give her college final year exams in December and January before she starts shooting for her next, Dinesh Vijan's Shakti Shalini, a film that she is headlining."

The actress is pursuing B.A. (Hons.) in Political Science, according to the source.

The source said: "Aneet is currently studying for her final-year examinations. She is pursuing a B.A. (Hons.) in Political Science and is neck deep balancing work and studies."

"Her schedule is being managed perfectly so that she can give ample time to her studies while finishing what is absolutely priority at the work front."

Shakti Shalini is by Dinesh Vijan for his blockbuster Maddock Horror Comedy Universe's (MHCU) project. The film is scheduled to release on December 24, 2026.

Aneet began her career with a brief role in the drama Salaam Venky in 2022 and had her first lead role as a member of a boarding school in the Prime Video series Big Girls Don't Cry. — IANS

Millie channelled her inner Tom Cruise

Stranger Things" fame Millie Bobby Brown says her character in the fifth and final season of the acclaimed science-fiction series made her "channel her inner Tom Cruise".

The actor joined her co-stars Noah Schnapp, Finn Wolfhard, Caleb McLaughlin, Gaten Matarazzo and Jamie Campbell Bower, creators Ross and Matt Duffer and executive producer Shawn Levy for a conversation at For Your Consideration on the weekend.

Millie, who essays the role of telepathic Eleven in the show, said her character is not just being a resource because of her psychic powers but also her physical capabilities.

"It was really exciting to be more of a resource this season, not just because of her powers but also her physical training and attributes that she's put herself through," she said at the event according to the entertainment news outlet The Hollywood Reporter.

Set in the 1980's, the story of "Stranger Things" revolves around the residents of the fictional small town of Hawkins, Indiana, after a young girl with psychokinetic abilities opens a gateway between Earth and a hostile alternate dimension.

The season, which will be released in three volumes, features Millie's Eleven at the center of the final showdown at Hawkins.

"It was really fun, I definitely channeled my inner Tom Cruise...I feel like Volume One only touches on what she's been training for, and I'm really excited for everyone to see what that leads to," she added. —PTI

Couture culture

Ananya Panday, the spunky Gen Z star is known for her affable charm and non-fussy yet impactful style. As a graduate of the Class of 2012, she enlisted herself into the rising brigade of consistently well-dressed celebrities. While she typically favours minimalism, Ananya occasionally does step out in show-stopping couture as well. A recent appearance on Kajol and Twinkle Khanna's celebrity chat show, 'Two Much' saw Panday stun in a Marianna Senchina maxi dress. This captivating dress that expertly melds modern elegance with daring sophistication, comes with a luxurious price tag of 750 Euros.

Styled by Ami Patel, Ananya slipped into a maroon toned Marianna Senchina flower bloom midi dress. The dress features strategic cutouts with two handcrafted 3D flowers. Furthermore, the ruched detailing allowed the dress a form-flattering silhouette. Dainty earrings by Renu Oberoi and a pair of strappy stilettos by Aquazzura upped the look. Ananya Panday's flawless minimal makeup featured shiny eyelids, delicately lined eyes, mildly blushed cheeks and berry toned lips. A slicked back updo completed her look. —ETimes